

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
24 May, 1977

AM

10:00 CONVENE, 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C.

ADMINISTRATION

- A. Dates of next meetings: 28 June, 1977
26 July, 1977.
- B. Minutes of April, 1977 Meeting.
- C. House District Committee Hearing on Staff Report, "Impediments to the Economic, Functional, and Aesthetic Development of the District of Columbia, the Nation's Capital."
- D. Office of Management and Budget Meeting on D.C. Civic Center - Report.
- E. Installation of Solar Film on Windows of Federal Office Buildings.

SUBMISSIONS-REVIEWS

- A. Federal Reserve System
Martin Building, Virginia Avenue and C Street, N.W.,
Enclosure of Podium Level - Resubmission.
- B. Smithsonian Institution
Garden for the Blind, Arts and Industries Building.
- C. National Zoological Park
Central Area Development Project, Preliminary Design.
- D. Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers
Arlington Cemetery Columbarium, Preliminary Site and
Building Plans.
- E. Department of the Army, Institute of Heraldry
 - 1. U.S. Coast Guard Arctic Service Medal.
 - 2. Humanitarian Service Medal.

24 May, 1977

F. D.C. Department of General Services

Engine Company No. 12 Replacement, 5th Street and Rhode Island Avenue, N.E.

G. D.C. Department of Economic Development

Old Georgetown Act

1. OG 77-93, 1530 30th Street, N.W., Construction of New Porte-Cochere.

2. OG 77-99, 3222 and 3248 M Street, N.W. (Rear), and 1070 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., Residential/Retail/Parking Complex.

3. OG 77-109, 1101 30th Street, N.W., New Apartment Building.

4. OG 77-112, 3261 K Street, N.W., Demolition of Existing Warehouse on K Street.

5. Appendix 1.

Shipstead-Luce Act

1. SL 77-71, 2601-11 Klinge Road, N.W., Six New Single-Family Dwellings.

2. Appendix 2.

H. D.C. Department of Housing and Community Development

Gangplank Restaurant, Southwest Waterfront - Resubmission.

Historic Subdivisions

Appendix 3.

I. Department of the Treasury, Bureau of the Mint

1. Jimmy Carter Presidential Medal.

2. Chief Justice Roger B. Taney Medal.

3. Chief Justice William Howard Taft Medal.

4. Historic Mint Medals.

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

24 May, 1977

NO. ADDRESS AND OWNER

PROJECT

OG 77-

86 1210-14 35th Street, N.W.
Nivan, Incorporated

Three new townhouses (resubmission refer to OG 77-55).

ACTION: General site plan and massing of three new houses is approved pending design development of facade and details. Recommend full brick treatment of windows, heads, sills, and cornice. Submit details, brick samples, and working drawings as they are developed prior to issuance of building permit. 4/29/77

87 1318 30th Street, N.W.
Mr. & Mrs. Hugh Scott
ACTION: Issue permit. 5/9/77

Enlarge window opening, new windows to match existing.

88 1264 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.
Patricia M. Simpson

Sidewalk cafe on N Street between two existing bays.

ACTION: Issue permit for roll-type awning with no posts and no end panels. 5/3/77

89 3027 Q Street, N.W.

Robert Woodward & Frances Barnard

ACTION: Do not issue permit. No objection to proposed rear modifications. Recommend restudy of front alterations retaining existing stoop and ironwork and restoring front yard to be consistent with rest of Cooke's Row. Parking and paving in front yard is not recommended. Suggest that no exceptions be granted to allow parking in this front yard, due to the unique historic and architectural importance of this dwelling. 5/9/77

Alteration of front steps and entry court; addition of wood lattice fence and wood decks, rear door vestibule.

90 3222 and 3248 M Street, N.W. (rear)
and 1070 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.
Herbert S. Miller, Trustee

Demolition of all but the two structures fronting on M Street. Construction of 2-5 levels of residential over 3 levels of commercial over 3 levels of parking (resubmission refer to OG 77-54).

ACTION: Do not issue permit. Request precise demolition plan with boundaries of work clearly delineated on drawing prior to issuance of permit. No objection of razing of existing structures as proposed. Though the project proposes high density combination use it appears to fall within existing zoning regulations and will not require exceptions or variances. Retention of C. & O. Canal retaining wall and M Street frontages, as well as the general massing of the project, are moving in the right direction. Recommend additional study, in particular on the Wisconsin Avenue face of the building so that it will achieve a more conventional cornice height and masonry surface in terms of being compatible with indigenous Georgetown development. Recommend additional study be pursued in the present direction and that additional submissions on massing and facade details through model and drawing form be presented as they are developed. 5/9/77

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

24 May, 1977

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
OG 77-		
91	3214 Prospect Street, N.W. James and Ruth Burron	Replace garage door with brick and glass storefront.
<u>ACTION:</u>	<u>Issue permit. 5/18/77</u>	
92	1509 28th Street, N.W. Mr. & Mrs. F. Mark Wyatt	Add new exterior trim, one bay window, and restucco and repaint front of house.
<u>ACTION:</u>	<u>Do not issue permit. Recommend that if serious alterations are to be made to this house, there be an effort to restore it to its original condition. Proposed add-on trim surrounding windows and on cornice as well as oriel window is not consistent with the existing building or its row. No objection to changing sash or door, but recommend retaining existing masonry openings if full restoration is not possible. 5/9/77</u>	
94	3316 M Street, N.W. Jagdish Katyal	Facade renovations and awning (resubmission refer to OG 77-72).
<u>ACTION:</u>	<u>Issue permit. Submit material samples for canopy and shop drawings for window millwork as they are developed. 5/18/77</u>	
95	2900 M Street, N.W. Pierre Ganoux	Replace double wood doors with two glass doors, using bronze, anodized frame, and clear glass. Replace first floor existing window and door with three equal-sized openings with brick arches identical to existing.
<u>ACTION:</u>	<u>Issue permit. 5/9/77</u>	
96	2903 N Street, N.W. Mr. & Mrs. G. Stevens	Six risers, exterior stairs, two windows.
<u>ACTION:</u>	<u>Do not issue permit. No objection to fixing or revising garage door. No exterior change will be recommended on the basis of the drawings submitted thus far. Alterations to the facade, the ground plane, or the landscaping as may be necessary to enclose garage door properly will require adequate architectural drawings to indicate in plan, section, and elevation precisely what is proposed. 5/18/77</u>	
97	1213 Bank Street, N.W. Stohlman Chevrolet	Provide new heating, air conditioning, electrical systems; change windows, doors.
<u>ACTION:</u>	<u>Issue permit. 5/9/77</u>	

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

24 May, 1977

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
OG 77-98	3314 P Street, N.W. Joseph Kraft	Three-story addition with garage.
ACTION:	Issue permit for brick addition with fine mortar joints, hard-edged brick, and painted to complement or match existing house. 5/18/77	
100	1420 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Pants Corral	3/4" thick wood painted letters (resubmission refer to OG 77-66).
ACTION:	Issue permit for name of business only, which is "Pants Corral". 5/18/77	
102	2803 Olive Street, N.W. Group Five, Inc.	Renovate interior and exterior rear wall. No front or side wall changes to be made.
ACTION:	Issue permit. 5/18/77	
103	1226 28th Street Group Five, Inc.	Renovate interior only. No frontal or structural exterior work to be done.
ACTION:	Issue permit. 5/18/77	
104	1228 28th Street, N.W. Group Five, Inc.	Renovate interior and exterior rear wall. No front or side wall changes to be made; no structural work.
ACTION:	Issue permit. 5/18/77	
105	1230 28th Street, N.W. Group Five, Inc.	Renovate interior and exterior rear wall only. Not visible from public space.
ACTION:	Issue permit. 5/18/77	
106	3217 P Street, N.W. Mr. Jack Neam	Renovation of street facade of building; change windows on side, general clean-up and paint. New awning, new windows, etc.
ACTION:	Preliminary concept approved subject to development of design details. Recommend simplification of woodwork on first floor. 5/18/77	
107	2928 P Street, N.W. Mr. & Mrs. Howard E. O'Leary	Raze existing tin garage.
ACTION:	Issue permit. 5/18/77	

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

24 May, 1977

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
OG 77-108	2928 P Street, N.W. Mr. & Mrs. Howard E. O'Leary	Build 5' lattice fence and mount on 2' brick wall to screen garden and replace old fence.
<u>ACTION:</u>	Issue permit. 5/18/77	
110	1417 33rd Street, N.W. David Schwartz	Enclose private alley (resubmission refer to OG 77-82).
<u>ACTION:</u>	No objection to preliminary design. In the interest of preserving the flanking historic houses, the design details of this particular skylight-clerestory infill element should be submitted and detailed very carefully prior to construction. The potential for water damage to flanking buildings and probable deterioration of these structures is of such likelihood without adequate detailing as to constitute a potential hazard to the adjoining historic structures. 5/18/77	
111	3239 M Street, N.W. 3239 Incorporated	Sign flat against building.
<u>ACTION:</u>	Issue permit. 5/18/77	

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE SHIPSTEAD-LUCE ACT

24 May, 1977

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
SL 77-36	412 5th Street, N.W. Georgetown University	Paze building.
ACTION:	Issue permit. Recommend reuse of doorway details and trim as possible in design of new complex on this site. 4/29/77	
37	416 5th Street, N.W. Georgetown University	Raze building.
ACTION:	Issue permit. Recommend reuse of doorway details and trim as possible in design of new complex on this site. 4/29/77	
62	201 East Capitol Street, S.E. Trustees of Amherst College	Three-story reading room addition to Folger Library off of south alley.
ACTION:	Preliminary design approved. Request submission of material samples and working drawings as they are developed, prior to issuance of building permit. 4/29/77	
63	502 19th Street, N.W. Maurice and Leon Robinson	Raze building.
ACTION:	Issue permit. 4/29/77	
64	1901 E Street, N.W. Home Federal Savings & Loan	Raze building.
ACTION:	Issue permit. 4/29/77	
65	1921 E Street, N.W. Associated General Contractors of America	Raze building to erect seven-story, reinforced concrete frame, pre-cast concrete and glass clad office building.
ACTION:	Issue permit. 4/29/77	
66	1957 E Street, N.W. Associated General Contractors of America	Raze building.
ACTION:	Issue permit. 4/29/77	

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE SHIPSTEAD-LUCE ACT

24 May, 1977

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
SL 77-67	1345 E Street, N.W. D.C. Government	Rental of public space for sidewalk cafe.
ACTION:	No objection to rental of public space.	Request submission of planter designs. 5/17/77
69	212 2nd Street, S.E. Claire Lee	Awning.
ACTION:	No objection to proposed awning.	Submit material samples. 5/18/77
70	336 Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E. Kramer Books	Install air conditioning to serve rear of store.
ACTION:	Do not issue permit. Location of air conditioning equipment at sidewalk level in this prominent location not recommended. Exception to use public space not recommended. Removal of existing iron railings not recommended. 5/18/77	

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON HISTORIC SUBDIVISION APPLICATIONS

24 May, 1977

<u>NO.</u>	<u>SQUARE, LOT, ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
HS 77- 37	Square 1246, Lot 858 3415 O Street, N.W. Juan R. M. Cameron & Nora L. Cameron	Conversion of Assessment and Taxation Lot 858 into a record lot.
ACTION:	No objection. 4/29/77	
38	Square 1213, Lots 14 and 15 1226-28 28th Street, 2803 Olive Street Group Five, Inc.	Subdivision of two lots into three lots.
ACTION:	No objection. 5/19/77	

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
24 May, 1977

The meeting convened at 10:00 a.m. in the Commission of Fine Arts offices at 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Members Present: Hon. J. Carter Brown, Chairman
Hon. Philip W. Buchen
Hon. Victorine du Pont Homsey
Hon. Eli S. Jacobs
Hon. Frederick D. Nichols
Hon. Kevin Roche
Hon. Edward D. Stone, Jr.

Staff Present: Mr. Charles H. Atherton, Secretary
Mr. Donald B. Myer, Assistant Secretary
Miss Lynda L. Brown
Mr. Jeffrey R. Carson
Mr. J. L. Sibley Jennings, Jr.
Miss Nancy H. Noyes

National Capital Planning
Commission Staff Present: Mr. Robert Gresham

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Dates for next meetings, 28 June and 26 July, 1977.

B. House District Committee Hearing on Staff Report, "Impediments to the Economic, Functional, and Aesthetic Development of the District of Columbia, the Nation's Capital". The Chairman said the Commission was mentioned in the report and copies were distributed for the members to read and comment on. Hearings on the report had started that morning and the Chairman had been asked to testify directly following Mayor Washington. In view of the conflict with the meeting, the Committee had asked him to testify at reconvened hearings June 12. The Chairman said that a draft statement would be sent to the members. The Secretary said that he had received a telephone call from Mr. Ben Gilbert, chief of the District of Columbia's Municipal Planning Office saying that the Mayor was recommending an increased height limit in the K Street corridor. The members hoped that the Chairman's statement would recommend retaining the present height limits.

C. Office of Management and Budget Meeting on D.C. Civic Center - Report by Secretary. On May 19th Mr. Peter Fannon of OMB hosted a presentation on the Civic Center by Ben Gilbert of the D.C. Municipal Planning Office with representatives of the White House

staff, GSA, Park Service, Planning Commission, and the Commission of Fine Arts Secretary and Assistant Secretary. The Secretary reminded the members of having briefly reviewed the project in the past and of having seen a recent booklet by the city on the subject. The Commission concurred that the project would lend vitality to the city. The Chairman said that support and enthusiasm for the city's major works should be encouraged. Mrs. Homsey and other members expressed hope that a more successful exterior design could be promoted than the one shown in the advance prospectus. The Secretary told of discussing the multi-acre roof in terms of solar energy and resulting architectural development with a number of people at the OMB meeting. He indicated that others thought such an approach would lend more character to the design. The members concurred. No action was required.

D. Installation of Solar Film on Windows of Federal Office Buildings. The Secretary told of an official request from GSA to determine how and if installation of solar film would be reviewed by the Commission of Fine Arts. He indicated that some installations had been under way in the vicinity and that energy savings would result. This type of material, however, could alter the appearance of a building or group of buildings very much. The Chairman said that the variety of materials available on the market gave much flexibility to color and reflectivity, but that the visual effect should be monitored. Mr. Frank Mallalieu of GSA said that using agencies had been responsible for installing some film recently on parts of office buildings. GSA hoped that this would not be done in the future. Policy was that such installations would be coordinated through the GSA Design Office. The Chairman and the members indicated their feeling that this process should include the Commission of Fine Arts which could help coordinate vicinity projects regardless of agency. Mr. Mallalieu agreed. No official action was required.

II. SUBMISSIONS-REVIEWS

A. Federal Reserve System

Martin Building, Virginia Avenue and C Street, N.W., Enclosure of Podium Level - Resubmission. The project representatives were Mr. John Denkler of the Federal Reserve staff and Mr. William Livingston, the consultant architect for this project and one of the original designers of the building. The Secretary indicated that since the April inspection of the podium area, the Commission's advice to try a scheme with glass set back several feet behind the piloti had been studied and was being presented. The Commission had originally rejected the idea of infilling the podium by putting glass between the piloti. A subsequent inspection and meeting with Governor Gardner had brought forth several suggestions for other

designs. Mr. Livingston presented a model with tinted sloped glass about four feet behind the piloti. The Commission examined the model and discussed alternatives with Mr. Roche favoring vertical glass, Mr. Nichols and the other members the tilted glass and the majority of the members suggesting that the glass be a minimum of six feet behind the piloti. General discussion ensued. In view of the double thickness of glass interrupting the view through the building from certain angles, and thus doubling the apparent tinting effect, it was suggested that the glass have a minimum of tint so as to differentiate it from the dark, enclosing glass of the main fenestration of the building. As without any tinting the glass might appear greenish, it was agreed that some tinting into the bronze palette of the building was desirable. A specific glass sample would be submitted for final Commission approval. The Chairman recapped the Commission's unanimous action as recommending that tilted, slightly tinted glass be set back a minimum of six feet from the backs of the piloti.

EXHIBIT A

B. Smithsonian Institution

Garden for the Blind, Arts and Industries Building. The project was represented by Mr. Phillip Reiss of the Smithsonian staff. The Assistant Secretary presented drawings indicating that the site was just south of the Mall between the Hirshhorn Gallery and the Arts and Industries Building. The site had been a parking lot and construction site for a number of years. The proposal would clean the area up, provide a thru walk from the Mall to Independence Avenue, and screen parking and service for the A & I Building. The design had been coordinated between the Smithsonian staff and several visually handicapped groups to include braille, special materials, and touchable elements. A small pool would have a few water jets for acoustical effect and some lilies, and the area adjacent to the A & I Building would have large masses of color flowers for the partially sighted. Mr. Reiss answered several questions about the angles of the walks and indicated that the project would be lined up axially with the nearby Mall crosswalks. On condition that were accomplished, the Commission unanimously approved the design.

EXHIBIT B

C. National Zoological Park

Central Area Development Project, Preliminary Designs. The project representatives were Dr. Theodore Reed, the Zoo director, and Mr. Winthrop Faulkner, the architect consultant. The Assistant Secretary presented drawings showing a scheme rehabilitating the Small Mammal and Reptile buildings as well as building a new crocodile exhibit. The crocodile exhibit would be a glassy prismatic series of structures. All of the proposals were consistent with the master plan and in harmony with the Great Ape House approved

by the Commission in April. Messers Faulkner and Reed answered a number of general questions about the types of exhibits. The Commission unanimously approved the preliminary designs, subject to design development, materials, landscaping and so forth.

EXHIBIT C

D. Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

Arlington Cemetery Columbarium, Preliminary Site and Building Plans. Project representatives included Basil Rousos, Patrick Halpin, Joseph Brown, Vonda Kimble, Carl Dodge, and John Hollet. The Secretary presented this scheme as an alternate to the unfunded Columbarium and Chapel approved by the Commission several years before. The present proposal was for a number of 5,000-urn walled garden spaces about a central composition axially aligned with the Tomb of the Unknowns. He pointed out that the northernmost walled space terminated the axis with a 10,000 niche area, and that it was desirable to terminate the axis to screen it from nearby noisy highway areas. Mr. Rousos explained his design concept indicating that the project was to be phased. Mr. Stone indicated his hope that the initial phase would involve the tree plantings which would screen the entire Columbarium area. Project representatives indicated that these plantings would be part of the project's first phase. Mr. Stone had some reservations about the central courts, but others felt that on the whole it was an imaginative way of taking care of a large number of urns without making it look like a filing project. The Chairman expressed concern over the terminal element being on an ideal site for a chapel. The Chairman also specified that the trees on the lower hill, necessary to screen the road, would be planted at the beginning of the project so as to give them the maximum time to mature. The Commission unanimously approved the project in concept provided it would be phased to provide a chapel site as an option.

E. Department of the Army, Institute of Heraldry

1. U.S. Coast Guard Arctic Service Medal. Ms. Noyes presented color drawings for this medal which the members found too complicated. On the obverse there were lettering, a polar bear, and a star. The Commission hoped the bear's proportions could be improved with a smaller head and a humped back. The reverse included an iceberg, radiant sky, and roping. The Commission found that far too complicated. The members unanimously rejected the design and recommended restudy. (see next exhibit)

2. Humanitarian Service Medal. Ms. Noyes presented color drawings for this medal. The members had no objection to the reverse. They recommended elimination of the globe grids on the obverse, however. The Commission unanimously approved the design

provided the globe grid could be removed.

EXHIBIT D

F. D.C. Department of General Services

Engine Company No. 12 Replacement, 5th Street and Rhode Island Avenue, N.E. The Assistant Secretary presented two photographs of the site and drawings depicting a precast concrete two-floor firehouse facing 5th Street. The side of the station and a walled service yard faced Rhode Island Avenue. The site was amid warehouses, carwashes, and a variety of industrial-utilitarian uses. Mr. Pavlick of the Department of General Services introduced the architect, Mr. Brown, who made a brief presentation. The Chairman asked if the proposed structure was near a predominantly brick area. Mr. Brown said that it was not. Mr. Roche asked if the window grilles had been detailed yet. Mr. Brown indicated that they were for security and had not been designed. The Commission gave its preliminary unanimous approval pending submission of the grille details.

EXHIBIT E

G. D.C. Department of Economic Development

Old Georgetown Act

1. OG 77-93, 1530 30th Street, N.W., Construction of New "Porte-Cochere". The Assistant Secretary described the project as a new structure in an open space between two free-standing Georgetown townhouses. The steel "porte-cochere", or pergola, would support vines and have planting, framing the parking of two cars. The structure would be open to the street, making the cars visible from the sidewalk. The Old Georgetown Board had recommended approval of the project. The architect, Mr. Scharnberg, explained that his design was the simplest, most minimal structure which he could design to be fireproof and do the job of making legal parking spaces. He explained that some structure was necessary to make parking legal without a garage in this particular space. Some members felt that a garage, or any new building on the site, would be less than desirable from an open space point of view. The Chairman expressed the Commission's policy that parked cars on private property ought to be screened. Several alternatives were discussed. The Commission took the unanimous action that there was no objection to the steel pergola structure, but that some device - a gate with translucent glass, or fence, or door - ought to screen the parked cars from the sidewalk.

2. OG 77-99, 3222 and 3248 M Street, N.W. (rear) and 1070 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., Residential/Retail/Parking Complex. The Assistant Secretary presented drawings and photographs describing the proposed demolition of several car-barn/industrial buildings on the site. The Commission unanimously approved their razing. The

Assistant Secretary presented drawings indicating that the proposal provided three levels of parking under two levels of retail space under ground. This would be topped by one level of retail and several floors of residential hotel space. The above ground areas would be broken into a number of masses with a variety of roof heights and a number of garden courts. Large skylights would be a part of the retail shopping area. The Georgetown Board had given general approval to the design scheme with reservations on the Wisconsin Avenue facade. On that, the east end of the project, the Board had suggested additional study to give more mass and less height.

The Commission examined the material and discussed the design with its architect, Mrs. Chloethiel Woodard Smith, and her client Mr. Evans. Mrs. Smith said that the project was still being fine tuned and that the Wisconsin Avenue facade was under study, but may not benefit from being reduced in height. Mr. Roche agreed with Mrs. Smith on that point. The members generally concurred with the design scheme and the potential of replacing one of the old utility bridges connecting the site with another across the canal. The new bridge would be a glass-covered truss for persons rather than trolleys or coal as had been several originals. The Assistant Secretary and Mrs. Smith said that the Municipal Planning Office was helping to study the parking of about 500 cars on the site. Suspected congestion at the Wisconsin Avenue single entry point had been a concern. The Commission unanimously approved the preliminary design pending additional study of the service, parking entrances, and the Wisconsin Avenue facade.

2. OG 77-109, 1101 30th Street, N.W., New Apartment Building. The Assistant Secretary presented a model, photographs, and drawings of phase two of a project previously approved by the Commission. With the Board's recommended approval, this preliminary design was for a small apartment building facing 29th Street and across a court from an office building being built on the existing skeleton of an old Gas Company warehouse facing the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal. At the time that the new skin for the office building was presented to the Commission the architect, Arthur Cotton Moore, had been cautioned about making the apartment building too monolithic. The design as presented now was articulated by a modest courtyard entrance, a large projecting overhang, and several Victorian-type curved bays, three with townhouse-like stoops. Brick stripes, and a number of other elements were evocative of an adjacent Victorian block while maintaining a contemporary idiom. The Commission told Mr. Moore they were pleased with certain imaginative elements indicating an effort to respond architecturally to the site, but recommended that additional study be given to reducing the height, particularly at the northeast corner of the project where it would both face the existing Victorian buildings and be

across the street from tiny Diamond Row. The Commission further suggested that future submissions include a large-scale model of the adjoining area, to indicate the design more clearly and the impact of the project on the vicinity. The Commission unanimously rejected the submission, recommending additional study.

4. OG 77-112, 3261 K Street, N.W., Demolition of Existing Warehouse on K Street. The Assistant Secretary presented photographs of the recent and undistinguished structure which had been approved for inclusion in the Flour Mill residential/office complex by the Commission some months before. The Commission at that time had no objection to keeping the structure, since it was proposed for resurfacing as a minor part of the project with minimum visibility. Foundation and design problems caused the architect to seek demolition of the building and replacement with a similar volume. The Georgetown Board had recommended that the razing request be granted. The Commission unanimously approved the request.

5. Appendix 1, delegated to the Chairman by unanimous consent, and approved by him.

Shipstead-Luce Act

1. SL 77-71, 2601-11 Klinge Road, N.W., Six New Single-Family Dwellings. The Assistant Secretary presented drawings, site photos and two models of the proposed development. He said that the site was between two tributary valleys running into Rock Creek Park and that the site was between Connecticut Avenue at Cleveland Park and Rock Creek Park. A visible, wooded, and important site with houses designed of natural vertical wood with wood shingles in the "Cleveland Park Style" characterized the project. The members examined the models and drawings and approved the house design as being excellent. The architect, Mr. Robert Schwartz, said that the site plan represented the builder's minimum on the site and that every care had been taken to preserve the topography and tree cover of the site. Mr. Stone said that the tree canopy of this site would be the critical element and that no expense or effort should be spared to protect existing trees on such a prominent site. The Commission took the unanimous action that the house design was approved as a prototype for the site, but that the site plan could not be approved until a proper site inspection could be made. The architect and the Commission agreed that such an inspection would be made during the next Commission meeting on June 28, 1977. The Shipstead-Luce case would be held until that time with no action taken.

2. Appendix 2, delegated to the Chairman by unanimous action of the Commission and approved by him.

H. D.C. Department of Housing and Community Development

Gangplank Restaurant, Southwest Waterfront - Resubmission. The Secretary presented drawings of the proposed floating, but fixed restaurant facility to be built in conjunction with a two-floor pier structure to have a variety of retail functions. The Commission had reviewed previous designs for the complex and had recommended additional study, particularly eliminating the flamboyant roof appendage. As presented the design had been simplified to the vernacular of the Southwest Waterfront. The architect, Doug Carter, and the Department representative Mr. Stanley Sherman were present. The Commission unanimously approved the design. EXHIBIT F

Historic Subdivisions

Appendix 3, delegated to the Chairman by unanimous action and approved.

I. Department of the Treasury, Bureau of the Mint

1. Jimmy Carter Presidential Medal. Ms. Noyes presented this medal with Mint representative George Schafer. The Commission unanimously approved the obverse portrait of Jimmy Carter. They recommended simplification of the reverse, perhaps making the Presidential Seal the only element. EXHIBIT G

2. Chief Justice Roger B. Taney Medal. Ms. Noyes presented this medal with Mint representative George Schafer. It was unanimously approved. (see EXHIBIT G)

3. Chief Justice William Howard Taft Medal. Ms. Noyes presented this medal with Mint representative George Schafer. It was unanimously approved. (see EXHIBIT G)

4. Historic Mint Medals. Ms. Noyes presented this new series of medals with Mint representative George Schafer. The Commission unanimously approved this series provided the "cut-off" look of the buildings in some cases could be avoided. (see EXHIBIT G)

5. Mr. Schafer presented the Commission with a number of medals struck by the Mint on permanent loan for display in the Commission's medal cases. The Commission unanimously accepted the medals and thanked Mr. Schafer for providing them with examples of recent work.

24 May, 1977

9.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 1:20 p.m.

Signed,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Charles H. Atherton". The signature is fluid and elegant, with the first name "Charles" being the most prominent part.

Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

June 1, 1977

Dear Governor Gardner:

The Commission of Fine Arts was happy to have an opportunity to review enclosing the podium level of the Martin Building during its May 24, 1977, meeting. During that meeting with your consultants and Mr. Denkler of your staff, we approved a scheme using very slightly tinted, slanted glass, a minimum of six feet behind the supporting piloti.

We congratulate you on coming up with a very passable scheme for a problem which seemed at first look highly intractable. As design details and actual material samples are selected, the Commission looks forward to working with you further.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Governor Stephen S. Gardner
Board of Governors
Federal Reserve System
Washington, D.C. 20551

JCB:ck

June , 1977

Dear Mr. Reiss:

The Commission of Fine Arts was happy to approve designs for a garden for the blind between the Arts and Industries Building and the Hirshhorn Gallery during its May 24, 1977, meeting.

Our one suggestion is that the retaining wall and entrance elements be carefully coordinated with the Mall cross-axial gravel walks. As the Commission can be of service in design detail development or material selection, we and our staff are at your service.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Phillip K. Reiss
Director
Office of Facilities Planning and
Engineering Services
Smithsonian Institute
Washington, D.C. 20560

JCB:ck

June 3, 1977

Dear Dr. Reed:

The Commission of Fine Arts was happy to approve central area development plans for the National Zoo during its May 24, 1977 meeting. Since these designs show a consistency in compliance with master plan, the Commission feels that you and your consultants are moving in the right direction. As the working drawings are developed for the Ape House, exteriors of the Small Mammal and Reptile Buildings, and the Crocodile Exhibits, we look forward to working with you on the review of these details and subsequent material selection. The Commission is tentatively planning an inspection visit to the Zoo some time during its June 28, 1977 meeting, provided this can be worked in with your schedule.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Dr. Theodore H. Reed
Director
National Zoological Park
Washington, D.C. 20009

DM:nn:hg

3 June, 1977

Dear Colonel Baxter:

At its meeting on May 24, 1977, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed designs for two medals submitted by the Institute of Heraldry. We are of the opinion that both the U.S. Coast Guard Arctic Service Medal and the Humanitarian Service Medal would benefit from simplification.

While we had no particular objection to the reverse design of the Humanitarian Service Medal, we felt that the obverse design would be better with a simple circle replacing the globe design. We also did not object to the Arctic Service Medal obverse with only the simple lettering, the star, and the polar bear, but felt that the bear should be better drawn to look more like a polar bear with a more humped back and a smaller head. The reverse of this medal, however, is far too complicated and should be simplified. Perhaps the Coast Guard insignia alone could be used in place of the iceberg, radiant sky, and roping elements, or the central elements alone could be used without the roping around the edge.

If there is any further way the Commission can be of assistance on these designs, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Colonel D. K. Baxter
Director
Institute of Heraldry
Department of the Army
Cameron Station
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

JCB/NHN/nn

3 June, 1977

Dear Mr. Starobin:

The Commission of Fine Arts was happy to approve preliminary designs for Engine Company No. 12 Replacement at 5th Street and Rhode Island Avenue, N.E. during its May 24, 1977 meeting. As we explained to Mr. Pavlick of your office and the consultant architect, Mr. Brown, overall success of the design is partially dependent on the type of window guards or screens selected for the building. We feel that it is desirable to have an additional review of working drawings including window screens to insure the best possible results.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Sam D. Starobin
Director
D.C. Department of General Services
613 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

JCB/DBM:nn

3 June, 1977

Dear Mr. Brown:

The Commission of Fine Arts reviewed and approved designs for the new Gangplank Restaurant in Southwest Washington during its May 24, 1977 meeting. We commend the architect and members of the Department for their efforts in refining and revising this design to be something that is compatible ~~and~~ an asset to the waterfront.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. James A. Brown
Acting Chief
Commercial Branch
Department of Housing
and Community Development
1325 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

JCB/DBM:nn

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.

WASHINGTON

13 June, 1977

Memo to: Members, Commission of Fine Arts
From: Charles H. Atherton, Secretary *CH*
Subject: Revision to Minutes of May 24, 1977 Meeting

Following is a revision to Paragraph H, page 8 of the Minutes of the meeting held on May 24 regarding the Gangplank Restaurant, per Mrs. Homsey's request:

H. D.C. Department of Housing and Community Development

Gangplank Restaurant, Southwest Waterfront - Resubmission. The Secretary presented drawings of the proposed floating, but fixed, restaurant facility to be built in conjunction with a two-floor pier structure to have a variety of retail functions. The Commission had reviewed previous designs for the complex and had recommended additional study, particularly eliminating the flamboyant roof appendage. As presented, the design had been simplified to the vernacular of the Southwest Waterfront. The architect, Doug Carter, and the Department representative, Stanley Sherman, were present. Mrs. Homsey suggested that the fascia be less than 18" in thickness; the Commission concurred, and Mr. Carter agreed to restudy the matter. On this basis the Commission unanimously approved the design.

EXHIBIT

June 3, 1977

Dear Mr. MacDonald:

At its meeting on May 24, 1977, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed designs for several medals submitted by the Mint. We found the two Chief Justice Medals, honoring Roger B. Taney and William Howard Taft, to be quite acceptable additions to this generally good series, and felt that the designs for the new Historic Mint series were also generally good. We would, however, recommend that all possible care be taken to prevent the "cut-off" look of some of the building depictions, particularly those of the Third Philadelphia Mint and the Carson City Mint, either by the addition of lower foreground details as was done in many of the others, or by angling the perspective so that the building corner itself comes further down, as was done in the Second Philadelphia Mint design. On the whole, however, we are enthusiastic about this new series and its design.

The Commission was also very pleased with the fine quality of the portraiture on the obverse of the Jimmy Carter Presidential Medal, but did feel very strongly that the reverse design was far too complicated, and could even be criticized for being a bit gimmicky. The Presidential Seal, is, of itself, such a powerful design statement that we would far prefer to see a design based solely on this symbol. In any event, the use of the map of the United States should be eliminated. As shown, it omits Alaska and Hawaii; and if they were to be added, the design would be even further over-complicated. We are also concerned that when the proposed design is reduced for the smaller-scale issues, it will become illegible. If there is any way this Commission can be of service to the Mint in correcting this problem, please let us know. The Commission feels this medal, especially given the excellent obverse design, deserves the best possible reverse as well.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
ChairmanMr. Frank H. MacDonald
Acting Director of the Mint
Department of the Treasury
Washington, D.C. 20220
mshg

June , , 1977

Dear John:

On behalf of the Commission of Fine Arts I regret not being able to meet with you on May 14, 1977, during our regularly scheduled Commission meeting. As you know, regulations require the Commission to announce its meetings in advance and open them to the public. This includes making the agenda public in advance as well, and, as I'm sure you are aware, our very heavy case load has made this a necessity over and above the legal requirements. Since we did not have a formal written request to place your project on the agenda, nor could any of us recall an informal request to do so, we all found ourselves in an embarrassing position with inadequate time or flexibility.

We have sent copies of the design criteria to the members for their comments and will be delighted to submit visual or written material on the Western Plaza to them by mail to get any possible advance reaction prior to our June 28 meeting. This, of course, is subject to your concurrence and your request.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. John Woodbridge
Executive Director
Pennsylvania Avenue Development
Corporation
405 13th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20044

JCB:ck

3 June, 1977

Dear John,

As pleased as we all were to be appart of the lighting design process for Pennsylvania Avenue during our evening meeting on the 23rd of May, 1977, we still do not feel the right balance has been achieved. Though the Commission has no specific objection to the lighting elements being proposed, we feel the proper relationship between the tree lights, the ornamental lights, and the highway-type lights has not yet been reached. Without speculating on refinement or alterations of any one of the specific elements, we feel it is essential to determine whether the proposal meets the high standards demanded for one of the most important locations in the city. As such, we will be happy to continue to work with you through additional mockup schemes that seem desirable to get the best possible results. The Commission has scheduled its next meeting for June 28th and, tentatively, the following meeting for July 29th.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. John M. Woodbridge
Executive Director
Pennsylvania Avenue Development
Corporation
Suite 1148, 425 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004

JCB/DBM:nn

3 June, 1977

Dear Mr. Stewart:

The Commission of Fine Arts was glad to have an opportunity to discuss installation of solar film on various federal installations with Mr. Frank Mallalieu during its 24 May, 1977 meeting. The Commission has no objection to such installations per se, but feels that the architectural impact on one or a group of buildings could have a substantial visual effect. Thus, our suggestion is that this type of installation be reviewed in the Washington area on a case-by-case basis with adequate photographs and specific material samples to make a fair and speedy determination. We realize that this may be a big and complicated job, and that frequently time constraints will be a problem. Our hope is that we can work with you on this important project as expeditiously as possible.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. J. S. Stewart
Acting Director
Construction Management Division
Region 3, Public Buildings Service
General Services Administration
Washington, D.C. 20407

JCB/DEH:nn



